

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 310559

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EWINT, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR MARITIME AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 304971

1. DOBRYNIN CONTACTED DEPUTY SECRETARY BY TELEPHONE DECEMBER 20 AND SAID SOVIETS HAD PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD "SOLVE ALL OUR PROBLEMS" AND MARITIME ATTACHE DZHAVAD WOULD COMMUNICATE IT TO CASEY OF MARAD. AFTER ORAL PRELIMINARY WITH CASEY ON DECEMBER 20, DZHAVAD BROUGHT DRAFT LETTER IN ENGLISH NEXT DAY. AFTER SOME COMMENTS BY USG (MARAD AND STATE), DZHAVAD REVISED LETTER AND BROUGHT IN SIGNED FINISHED VERSION IN RUSSIAN DECEMBER 22. LETTER AGREES TO US POSITION ON MAJOR OUTSTANDING ISSUES (SEE REFTEL, PARA 5). FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF USG TRANSLATION OF LETTER.

. "DEAR MR. BLACKWELL, WITH REFERENCE TO THE RECENT
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NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE DELEGATIONS OF THE US AND THE USSR CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ON MARITIME MATTERS OF DECEMBER 29, 1975, I AM AUTHORIZED TO STATE THE FOLLOWING ON BEHALF OF THE USSR MINISTRY OF MERCHANT MARINE:

3. "THE SOVIET SIDE ACKNOWLEDGES THE RIGHT OF THE AMERICAN SIDE TO CARRY ON US FLAG VESSELS NO LESS THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE BILATERAL CARGOES IN THE SOVIET-AMERICAN TRADE, AS PROVIDED BY THE AGREEMENT OF DECEMBER 29, 1975, AND ANNEX III OF THAT AGREEMENT. THE SOVIET SIDE SHALL, IN THE FUTURE, COMPLY WITH THIS AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE-CITED AGREEMENT AND THE ANNEXES THEREOF.

4. "THE SOVIET SIDE REGARDS AS AGREED WITH THE AMERICAN SIDE THE FACT THAT DURING 1977 AN ADDITIONAL 1,150,000 TONS OF GRAIN WILL BE PROVIDED FOR CARRIAGE BY US FLAG VESSELS AS COMPENSATION FOR THE UNDERCARRIAGE BY US FLAG SHIPS IN 1975-1976.

5. "A FREIGHT RATE OF US 16.47 DOLLARS PER LONG TON SHALL BE APPLIED, AS PROPOSED BY THE AMERICAN SIDE, FOR CARRIAGE BY US FLAG VESSELS OF THE AFOREMENTIONED QUANTITY OF CARGOES, AS WELL AS FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GRAIN CARGOES OF THE 1977 PROGRAM. FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GRAIN CARGOES WHICH MAY EXCEED 3,283,000 LONG TONS, THE FREIGHT RATE WILL BE US 16.00 DOLLARS PER LONG TON.

6. "IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ABOVE-MENTIONED FREIGHT RATES ARE APPLICABLE WITH RESPECT TO CARRIAGES UNDER CHARTER FIXTURES MADE BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND DECEMBER 31, 1977.

7. "THE SOVIET SIDE EXPRESSES ITS READINESS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS AND TO REACH MUTUAL AGREEMENT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE WITH THE AMERICAN SIDE ON SPECIFIC QUANTITIES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHER BULK CARGOES EQUIVALENT TO THE TONNAGE OF SUCH CARGOES CARRIED ON SOVIET VESSELS IN 1975 AND 1976, WHICH WILL BE OFFERED ADDITIONALLY IN 1977 FOR CARRIAGE BY US FLAG VESSELS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH 3(B) OF ANNEX III TO THE AGREEMENT AND PARAGRAPH II OF THE MEMORANDUM CONCERNING BULK CARRYINGS OF DECEMBER 29, 1975. RESPECTFULLY, YU. DZHAVAD, MARITIME ATTACHE."

8. REQUEST EMBASSY DELIVER COPY OF TRANSLATION TO IGOR AVERIN OF MINISTRY OF MERCHANT MARINE ON DECEMBER 27 AND CONFIRM WITH AVERIN ACCURACY OF TRANSLATION.
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